



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

January 12, 2012

OFFICE OF
ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION

Ms. Machel Lee Hall
Tulane Environmental Law Clinic
6329 Freret Street
New Orleans, LA 70118

RE: Request Number: 06-FOI-00146-12 (previously 04-FOI-00160-12)

Dear Ms. Hall:

This is in response to your request for a fee waiver in connection with your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) seeking copies of records regarding Taylor Energy Company LLC's decommissioning work in Mississippi Canyon Block 20 in the Gulf of Mexico, Lease Number OCS-G 04953. We have reviewed your fee waiver justification and based on the information provided, we are denying your request for a fee waiver. You have not expressed a specific intent to disseminate the information to the general public. As you stated "The Waterkeepers are strongly committed to public participation and transparency, and will make the information that is subject of this request available to the general public. Each of the Waterkeepers maintains a publicly available website where they will post information related to the subjects at issue in this FOIA request." As a result of you failing to meet the above criteria, accordingly, there is no need to address the remaining prongs of the fee waiver criteria.

Region 6 will be responding to your information request. You have been placed in the other fee category, and will be charged for the costs of search time and duplication, excluding the first two hours of search time and the first 100 pages of duplication. If the estimated costs exceed \$25.00, Region 6 will contact you regarding the cost of processing your request and seek an assurance of payment. They will be unable to process your request until they receive your assurance of payment.

Under the FOIA, you have the right to appeal this fee waiver denial determination to the National Freedom of Information Office, U.S. EPA, FOIA and Privacy Branch, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. (2822T), Washington, DC 20460 (U.S. Postal Service Only), FAX: (202) 566-2147, E-mail: hq.foia@epa.gov. Only items mailed through the United States Postal Service may be delivered to 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. If you are submitting your appeal via hand delivery, courier service or overnight delivery, you must address your correspondence to 1301 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Room 6416J, Washington, DC 20004. Your appeal must be

made in writing, and it must be submitted no later than 30 calendar days from the date of this letter. The Agency will not consider appeals received after the 30 calendar day limit. The appeal letter should include the FOI number listed above. For quickest possible handling, the appeal letter and its envelope should be marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal."

Should you choose to appeal this determination, please be sure to fully address all factors required by EPA's FOIA Regulations, located at 40 C.F.R. § 2.107(l) in your appeal. If you have any questions concerning this determination please contact me at (202) 566-1667.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Larry F. Gottesman", written over the word "Sincerely,".

Larry F. Gottesman
National FOIA Officer